

DELAWARE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD

The Townsend Building
401 Federal Street, Suite 2
Dover, Delaware 19901

Meeting Minutes

The Department of Education
The Cabinet Room

March 7, 2013
1:15 P.M.

Members Present: Joanne Christian, Samtra Devard, Karen Gordon, Cristy Greaves, Chris Kenton, David Kohan, Wendy Murray, Mary Pinkston, Whitney Price, Kathleen Thomas, and Jacqueline Wisnauskas.

Members Absent: Michael Casson, Stephanie DeWitt, and Marilyn Dollard.

Others Present: Charlie Michels; PSB Executive Director, Paula Fontello; Deputy Attorney General, Donna Mitchell; RTTT Deputy Officer TLEU Professional Development, Erin Pieshala; Education Associate Teacher & Administrator Quality Development, Donna Johnson; State Board of Education Executive Director, Deb Stevens; DSEA, Frank Livoy; University of Delaware, Amanda Molden; DE Associates of School Psychologists, Michelle Kriss; Secretary to PSB.

I. Opening

Call to Order: Ms. Thomas, Professional Standards Board Chair, called the meeting to Order at 1:20 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Dr. Greaves and seconded by Ms. Gordon to approve the March 7, 2013 Agenda. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of February 7, 2013: A motion was made by Ms. Murray and seconded by Ms. Devard to approve the PSB Minutes of February 7, 2013. The motion carried.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. Executive Director's Report

- Mr. Michels attended the DDOE's Office of Teacher and Administrator Quality Development Workgroup meetings on February 11 and 13, 2013.
- Mr. Michels participated in an interview calibration process at Innovative Schools in Wilmington on February 12, 2013 for the upcoming interviews of the Delaware Leadership Project's candidates.

- Mr. Michels was a judge for the DE DECA Student Organization State Conference and Competitions on February 13, 2013.
- Mr. Michels participated in the DPAS II Calibration Committee meeting on February 11 and 19, 2013.
- Mr. Michels attended the Delaware Association of School Personnel Administrators (DASPA) meeting on February 21, 2013.
- Mr. Michels met with some educators on February 27, 2013 from Wilmington University and the Delaware School Counselor Association (DSCA) to talk about their concerns at it relates to the current definition of ‘teaching experience’ and how that impacts them relative to their ability to apply and be issued Administrator certifications.
- Mr. Michels has been working on Regulation **1510 Issuance of Initial License** and he indicated that it is one of the most complex 1500 regulations. He said he has worked on this regulation for 2 years in anticipation of the **DE Code** being amended. He also noted the Registrar of Regulations has reformatted recent regulations that had numerous changes, so he is following that procedure with changes to **1510** due to the plethora of suggested changes.
- Mr. Michels was asked by the Governor’s Advisory Council of Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) to participate in a Delaware discussion regarding adapted physical education.
- Mr. Michels received a call from Delaware’s Lieutenant Governor Matthew Denn to discuss putting together professional development opportunities for Special Education educators.

IV. **DOE Report**

Ms. Thomas introduced Ms. Donna Mitchell, *Race To The Top* (RTTT) Deputy Officer of the Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Unit (TLEU) for Professional Development. Handouts were distributed to the PSB regarding Delaware Educator Preparation Improvement, and Ms. Mitchell gave a presentation to the PSB members. She explained that Delaware Education Preparation Improvement is one of the initiatives mentioned in the RTTT agreement. Ms. Mitchell discussed how Delaware will be able to rapidly and continually improve the effectiveness of the State’s preparation programs. She noted that the DE Secretary of Education has committed the State of Delaware to supporting the recommendations coming from the Council of Chief State School Officers’ (CCSSO) Task Force Report and the National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) Report. Ms. Mitchell discussed several slides that contained graphs and statistical data: DE Educator Workforce, Human Capital Data, Institutions of Higher Education Data, and Teacher Retention. Ms. Mitchell then answered questions and concerns posed by the PSB.

V. **Action Items**

A. **1594 Special Education Director**

Mr. Michels said this regulation was published in the November 1, 2012 DE Register of Regulations. Written comments were received from the from the Governor’s Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) and the State Council for Person with Disabilities (SCPD). Mr. Michels spoke to how the regulation was revised some minor edits that clarified language, per the Councils’ comments, but that the revisions did not change the intent of the regulation. Mr.

Michels provided his recent research on the status of currently certified Special Education Directors. This regulation is before the Board for Final Approval. A motion was made by Ms. Wisnauskas and seconded by Dr. Greaves for the Final Approval of **1594 Special Education Director** as published. The motion carried.

B. 1502 Professional Growth Salary Increments

Mr. Michels discussed the changes within **1502** and re-addressed the inequity of salary increment awards for certain educators based upon the methods by which Institutions of Higher Education award successful completion of Specialist level preparation programs. He referred the PSB to a handout in their folders that showed the results of a survey that was completed in the last 24 hours by the DE School Psychologist Association. The survey showed the levels at which School Psychologists are currently being paid. Mr. Michels invited Ms. Amanda Molden from the Delaware Association of School Psychologists to speak to the PSB about the disparity and requirements of her colleagues. After further discussion concerning exacting regulation language, a motion was made by Mr. Kenton and seconded by Ms. Christian to table regulation **1502 Professional Growth Salary Increments** for Publication. The motion carried. The regulation will be presented for Publication at a future meeting.

C. PSB ad hoc Committee: Executive Director

Ms. Thomas said the PSB needed to establish an ad hoc committee. Ms. Fontello said the PSB must designate any ad hoc committee's task and a duration period. This committee would be established for recommending a new Executive Director to the full Board, and she recommended a 6 month time frame. She also noted that the PSB Chair appoints PSB members to the committee. A motion was made by Dr. Greaves and seconded by Ms. Devard to establish a **PSB ad hoc Committee** for the purpose of recommending the next PSB Director within 6 months or until an Executive Director is hired, whichever occurs first. The motion carried.

VI. Discussion

A. PSB Legislative Agenda ~ Update

Mr. Michels discussed the proposed **DE Code** Amendments and referred the PSB to the handout in their folders that highlighted the current Initial Licensure requirements and proposed amendments to the following areas: the Test of General Knowledge, the ARTC Program, and Specialists and Student Teaching. He said he has been working with Ms. Fontello on updating a draft of legislation and referred the PSB to another handout in their folders pertaining to Title 14 Education, Part 1, Chapter 12, *Subchapter II, Three-Tiered Licensure System*. Mr. Michels said the legislation has been revised a few times in the last year and that this particular initiative is also part of the Governor's and the Department's initiative for legislative action. Mr. Frank Livoy, Director of University of Delaware's ARTC Program spoke to the PSB about the requirements within his Program of Praxis I and II, and the Delaware Transition to Teaching Partnership (DT3P) at University of Delaware. Mr. Michels encouraged the PSB to provide comments or thoughts.

B. Praxis II test: 5031 Elementary Education: Multiple Subjects

Mr. Michels said the PSB should consider replacing the current Elementary Education Praxis II test 5014 with the relatively new Praxis II test 5031 which requires the candidate to meet cut scores for each of the 4 elementary academic area subtests. He referred the PSB to the handout in their folders that showed the ETS Praxis II test 5031 Elementary Education: Multiple Subject cut scores for Reading & Language Arts, Math, Social Studies, and Science. Mr. Michels noted that all of the states except for Connecticut that require Praxis II test 5031 are using the ETS recommended cut scores. Mr. Michels has been encouraged from several DE groups and organizations to pursue this test as a better measure of elementary teacher candidates' content knowledge in the 4 elementary academic areas. To date the Department supports moving to this test with the recommended cut scores. Mr. Michels encouraged the PSB to provide him with comments.

C. Praxis I Test: ETS's MSSS results

Mr. Michels reviewed this new Praxis I test aligned with the Common Core and has begun to think about effective dates and implications of new cut scores to be set. He asked Mr. Frank Livoy to speak about his experience during the ETS *MultiState Standards Setting Study* (MSSS) and thoughts he may have since he served as an expert from Delaware. Mr. Livoy discussed the very professional 3 day intensive workshop that consisted of about 20 people in Higher Education from throughout the United States and Guam. Participants took each part of the test and analyzed each item on the test. Once they answered the questions, they would confer with some small and large groups. Mr. Michels will work with the DE teacher preparation program leadership to assess their concerns and implications for implementation. Mr. Michels asked the PSB to consider the cut scores and effective dates for Action at a future PSB meeting.

VII. PSB Standing Committees

A. Licensure and Certification Criteria

The Committee had not met.

B. Professional Development and Associated Compensation

The Committee had not met.

VIII. Other

Ms. Susan Francis, Executive Director of the Delaware School Board Association, presented PSB member Joanne Christian with the Secretary of Education's Merit Award for her distinguished service with Appoquinimink School District's Board of Education and the Delaware community at large. Cheers were heard.

IX. Public Comment

None.

X. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Devard and was seconded by Ms. Gordon to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.